NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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AGRICULTURE.

MILLET.

MR FESSENDEN—In Agriculture, as in all practical sciences, facts are much more important than theories; and it is the duty of every farmer to communicate the result of his experiments. A plain and exact history of his cultivation will be useful to himself and to others; and it would be well for him to remember that it may be as useful to record his failures as his successes.—I give you the history of a small Millet field.

The land is a moist good soil; and measures seventy-two square rods. It was planted last year with potatoes, very slightly manured with rock weed in the drills, and yielded a poor crop. It was manured this year with slaughter yard and barn manure mixed, at the rate of 2⅝ cords and three fourths to an acre; that is 336 cubic feet of manure were put on the piece and ploughed in. It was sowed with seed obtained at the New England Farmer office, and rolled on the 14th June, at the rate of 5 pecks of seed to the acre. The field was mowed on the 19th inst. and carried in yesterday weighing 3090 lbs. at the rate of 6900 lbs. to the acre. It was cut as soon as some of the seeds would shake out when rolled in the hand; and from experience heretofore, I deem it quite equal to my best English Hay for any kind of stock. Yours respectfully,

Salem, August 25, 1827. H. C.

INSECTS.

MR. FESSENDEN.—With a view to confirm the facts, respecting the insect, which preys on the cut-worm, (partially described in the N. E. Farmer, page 313, vol. 5th,) the following remarks are made.

This season my plants were visited as usual, by the cut-worm; but not in such crowds, as in the last year. They however, succeeded in destroying many plants, until about the 10th of June, at which time, their great enemy, the cut-worm destroyer appeared, and in sufficient numbers to put a stop to further depredations. I had frequent opportunities of witnessing the prowess of this insect in the destruction of the larvæ, which prove so troublesome to the gardener.

These new insects are of different sizes, from half, to more than an inch in length. They are provided with 6 small legs, placed near the head. They are quick in motion, and their whole complexion is black. They lie just beneath the surface of the earth. When this insect seizes a cut-worm, that lies near the top of the earth, the exertions of the latter to disengage the assailant are such, as to bring both into view on the surface.

On the 12th of June, P. M. one of these insects of more than ordinary size was put into a glass vessel, and three cut-worms were placed with him. He not only killed, but nearly devoured them in the course of the afternoon. The next morning, the glass vessel was half filled with earth, and 14 cut-worms (none very small, some large) were put into it. They soon crawled into the earth. In the evening the earth was examined; and it was found, that the *avenger* had destroyed 10 of the number, some of which he had considerably eaten. The next day he disposed of the remainder in the same manner. He was then kept fasting, and after thirtysix hours had elapsed, a very large larva of the earth-beetle (called, dorr-bug) was put with him. At first, he made some faint attempts to fasten on the worm, but did not, until forced by famine—he slew the *victim*, and feasted on the *carcass*.

Mansfield, August 3, 1827. R. GREEN.

MR FESSENDEN,—Had not your correspondent suffered severely by the ravages of the insects, called rose-bugs, he never should have attempted an investigation of their habits and mode of economy. And now he regrets, that after much research, he is not able to present you with something, that might prove an effectual antidote.

Mansfield, May 28, 1827. R. GREEN.

REMARKS ON THE SCARABÆUS ROSEUS, OR ROSE-BUG.

The writer will not trouble himself, nor the reader with vague opinions, as to the origin and final exit of the insects in question; but bring into view such facts as have come under his observation: neither has he a wish to trespass upon the province of the entomologist; but from several considerations, having seen no specific name by which they are called, he is disposed to depart from the path generally pursued, and call the insect, Scarabæus Roseus, a name sufficiently significant for his purpose. If others prefer a different name, they are at liberty to select, and to make use of what they please. The insect, however, belongs to the Scarabæus family, in the order, Coleoptera, according to Linnæus. More modern entomologists have subdivided this family or genus, and given different names to the subdivisions, but facts are the same.

An individual rose-bug is unimportant, otherwise than it regards science, but collectively they are a potent enemy, and unavoidably arrest our attention, especially, when they assail us on all points, our interest, our comforts, our pleasures, and intrude on our persons.

These insects appeared in this vicinity some time during the revolutionary war with G. Britain They were first observed on rose bushes, and from this circumstance they were, almost universally, called rose-bugs. At first, their increase was slow, and the injury done was small; but they have of late years greatly increased, and their depredations have been great, extensive and alarming. In many places their ravages were such the two last seasons, as to warrant the conclusion, that, if they should increase for two or three years to come, in the same ratio, as they have increased for the two years past, scarcely a green thing, on which they prey, would be left unmutilated. They are voracious, especially when they first appear, and not very delicate as to their food. They prey upon many kinds of plants, shrubs and trees, but especially on rose bushes, the nice varieties of the cherry tree, grape vines, plum trees, apple trees and almost all kinds of young fruit as apples, peaches, apricots, nectarins, &c. Indian corn, beans, clover, many forest trees and shrubs, not excepting the shrub-oak, suffer from their ravages. They are fond of flowers, especially the flowers of the rose and grape, both of which they soon destroy; and by them the verdure and beauty of a garden are laid in ruins.

As to the time of their annual appearance, there is some variation, depending on the warmth of the season. In 1825, they appeared on the 8th day of June, and by the 12th, they were very numerous and so continued for several days. By the 28th, the number was comparatively few and depreciated daily, until the 8th of July, after which none was observed. In 1826, a few appeared on the 3d of June, (weather warm, and dry,) and on the 4th, they were numerous. On the 8th, they were more numerous than ever known before. The weather was very warm, the thermometer at 4 P. M. stood at 93° in the shade. In the garden of the writer, the atmosphere was literally alive with the insects, which from their great numbers made a general hum, similar to that of the swarming of bees. The wind was from the west, but the insects came from the east, against the wind, and none is recollected to come from any other direction. The fragrance of the garden, (there being at that time, many plants in flower) was carried by the wind to some distance, and undoubtedly invited them there. They were very numerous for several days, but by the 24th, they were less so, and decreased from day to day. By the 9th of July very few were seen, and after that time only an individual was now and then observed, and none after the 21st appeared. The cool weather and rains in the latter part of June, and the beginning of July, undoubtedly, protracted their continuance. It is probable, that in other places, at some distance, there may be some difference of time as to their appearance and continuance, depending on local circumstances.

They are greatly influenced by the state of the weather. Their progress is accelerated by heat, and retarded by cold. In a warm day they are active, but in a cool one, especially if it be wet, they are languid and move but little. About 9 o'clock, A. M. in fair warm weather, they begin to move from place to place in quest of food and company, of which they seem excessively fond, and by 10 A. M. or before, they are found in pairs, and frequently collected in great numbers, from 2 to perhaps 20 or more on a single leaf. Eighty-six of these spoilers were known to infest a single rose bud, and were crushed with one grasp of the hand. As the evening approaches, if it be cool, they become still, but if the night be very warm, they feed and occasionally travel a small distance, but do not make use of their wings. If after a rain the sun break out warm, they are very active. When shaken from a tree in the cool of the evening, or at any time when they are wet with dew, they fall on the ground and crawl to the tree, or anything else standing near, and ascend, as they cannot under these circumstances make use of their wings. In a scorching sun they seek a shady place, and frequently collect where there is a cluster of leaves. When they settle on a plant, shrub, or tree, they seem generally, disposed to stay on the same, until they have destroyed the foliage, and then resort to others. They may not

all have an equal relish for the same kind of food. Some may prefer one kind of vegetable production, and others a different kind. However, be this as it may, they are, when they first appear, omnivorous, having taken no food during the chrysalis state.* They do not prefer the foliage of the peach tree, nor that of the pear tree, but will occasionally feed on both. In 1825 they destroyed the foliage of a thrifty mountain ash, and essentially injured it; but in 1826, they scarcely noticed it. In a few days after their first general appearance, especially if the weather be cool, they seem to be less numerous, but this is, perhaps, not the fact any farther than they may be destroyed. At this time they become more stationary, probably devour less, leave some plants or trees and assail others, yet the work of destruction goes on.

The leaf is an important organ, and when a tree is stripped of its foliage in the month of June, unless it be otherwise healthy and vigorous, it dies, or at least declines. In my garden stood a number of young, promising cherry trees, which had been inoculated. They were assailed by the ravagers and robbed of their foliage—debility and decay ensued—a few, however, survived this shock, and put forth leaves the ensuing spring—but a new crop of intruders came, and it was fatal.

These insects, like many others, pass three different stages, the egg, the larva and the chrysalis, before they arrive to the mature or perfect state. A general description may be necessary, and will be now attempted.

These insects in their perfect form are nearly all of a size, about 4 lines in length and 1¼ through the middle of the body, which is covered with a crustaceous substance, overspread with minute pointed bristles of a light brownish yellow, only conspicuous under a magnifier. There is but little difference in the general appearance between the male and the female, excepting the latter is a little larger than the former. The posterior segment of the body, or apex of the males is longer and larger than that of the female, and the dark line dividing the apex from the other part of the body is most conspicuous in the former.

The head is flattish and the eyes are black, prominent and immovable. The *antennæ* are beautiful organs, (viewed through a microscope,) jointed, moveable, small at the articulation, near the eyes, and at the extremity, an oblong *club*, which is divided longitudinally into three portions. These portions the insect opens and shuts horizontally, at pleasure, when moving from place to place.—The thorax is broad, hexagonal and convex. The *elytra* (wing-cases) are divided by a straight longitudinal suture, covering the back, leaving the posterior part naked. These are articulated to the anterior part of the back, and are raised up, as on a hinge, to admit the expansion of the wings. The *scutellum* lies between the superior parts of the elytra, and is in form triangular.—The wings are two, and lie directly under the elytra, folded up by the nicest articulations, membranous, transparent, and show some light shades of red and green in the sun. When unfolded, they extend beyond the length of the body. The abdomen is formed of annular segments, and contains the viscera. The legs are six, long and well jointed, formed of a crustaceous substance of a reddish yellow, or light chesnut colour, blackish joints. Each *tibia* is armed with dark thorns, and each *tarsus* has 5 joints, furnished with thorns, and at the extremity, two curved claws. The two anterior legs are articulated to the under part of the thorax, the two middle ones, to the anterior and under part of the abdomen; and the two posterior which are longer and larger than the others, to the under and central part of the same; and with the two last named, they have, when disturbed, a contemptuous motion of throwing them over their backs.

They, like most other insects, are oviparous, and deposit their eggs below the surface in moist, light earth, and in grass land. The depth of deposit is from near the surface to 3 or 4 inches, according to the state of the soil. The eggs are about one thirtieth of an inch in diameter, white, contained in a transparent membrane, of sufficient strength. When they have performed their last work, which is the preparation for a new crop, still more numerous, they, both male and female, in a short time, perish by exhaustion, some in the earth and some above it.* With respect to the time when an individual deposits her eggs, there is some variation. Some perform this office sooner than others; but from a variety of experiments made by placing the insects, male and female, in pots of earth, kept moist, covered with millinet, fed and exposed to light and proper heat, and the frequent inspections of the bodies of the females, carefully made, it is thought, they generally perform that office in about 20 days from the time they emerge from the earth, but in different places and at different times, occupying the space of 2 or 3 days, more or less. It is an unhappy circumstance, that they occupy so much time before they can complete their object. Time, however, is necessary for the eggs to become matured. If the body of a female be inspected soon after her emerging from the earth, the eggs will be found, by the aid of a magnifier, to be in a confused mass. After a few days they will be more distinctly seen, some more perfected than others, and as the period of oviparition approaches, the eggs approach to maturity. In about 20 days the eggs are matured, distinct, and a little oblong, but after they are deposited, become round, or nearly so. The number of eggs found in an individual have never exceeded 30, generally below twenty.

To be concluded next week.

* It is admitted, that they, on taking the "VEIL," the chrysalis state, carry with them all that is necessary for that state of seclusion; but eventually, their stores are exhausted by the astonishing process of metamorphosis, which is carried on, and they emerge from the earth with strong appetites.

* At the time, when "taking leave of absence," they were found, male and female, 2 or 3 inches below the surface of the earth, and in one instance, *sub copula*.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

ON PEACHES, &c.

Mr FESSENDEN—Among the luxuries which are the produce of our climate, the peach is one of the most valuable, but, in years of great abundance, as the present is likely to be, large quantities of this delicious fruit are suffered to go to waste on the ground, or even prostituted as food for swine. I wish to invite my brother farmers to lay by, in reserve for another year, the superabundance of the present season, which may be done by drying in the sun all the fruit which they will not be able to dispose of to advantage.

In plentiful years, none but the finest will pay for marketting; and many fall and get bruised.—This refuse fruit I invite them to dry, which may be done by splitting, taking out the stones, and exposure to the sun. The day after they are put out, and have got wilted, the work of dessication may be considerably advanced by pressing the outside of the pieces with the finger, so as to push out the inside, and thus exposing it better to the effect of the sun. They may be laid out on milk pans or pieces of boards, but if the quantity of fruit to be dried be considerable, I have used with much convenience dryers constructed as follows. I have taken pine slats about one inch square, and nailed on them shingles, so that my dryers are the width of the shingles, and about four feet long; refuse shingles answer the purpose very well, and they may be nailed on with cut tacks: these dryers have the advantage of lightness and cheapness, and they are quickly made. They may be laid on the roof of a shed, and should be housed at night, before the dew falls.

If the weather comes on wet, the fruit will be liable to moulder; in that case, it must be finished in an oven heated moderately. Peaches well dried in this manner, will keep in paper bags in a dry room, and be good the third year.

They are a luxury as a dried fruit, and will also make excellent pies. For this purpose it is a great improvement to soak them in a little water, or yet better in currant wine, 6 hours before they are wanted for baking.

PEACH WINE.

The refuse fruit may also be used to good advantage for the making of wine, which I have done in the following manner. After taking the stones out, the fruit should be well mashed with the hands, thrown into a boiler with a sufficient quantity of water, well boiled and kept mashed so as to get it to yield its juice. When boiled enough, it should be worked through a sieve to get the liquor as clear as possible; and for that purpose the sieve should be often washed in cold water. Add then good Havana sugar enough to have it pleasant, and let it rest twelve hours for the sediment to settle at the bottom; and to the clear liquor add of good brandy 2 or 3 quarts for a barrel—then barrel it, and bung it down. This is of the nature of the French boiled wines, *Vins cuits*, *Vins de liqueur*, and if well managed is a most excellent wine, both for its great substance and its superior flavour.

LIQUOR FROM THE STONES.

The stones may be used for the making of a liquor which will be found equal to the best imported *Noyeau*. They should be broken immediately after being taken out, and whatever of the fruit adheres to them should be left on. The almonds which they contain should also be bruised, and both shells and almonds then put into a demijohn, or other vessel, until it is two thirds filled—then filled up with good brandy. After six months the liquor may be decanted clear and sweetened with white or loaf sugar. It will improve by age.

There can be no doubt but the dried fruit, the wine, and the liquor would be made welcome to a ready and profitable market in the City, and that the dried fruit would be particularly well adapted for cabin use in long voyages.

With much esteem,

Your friend and serv,t, J. M. G.

Weston, August 27, 1827.

REMARKS.—To the above judicious article we add the following from the New England Farmer's Almanack, (advertised in this day's paper). The article is written by a gentleman in New Jersey, and describes his peach house:

He has a small house with a stove in it, and drawers in the

sides of the house, lathed at the bottoms. Each drawer will hold nearly half a bushel of peaches, which should be ripe, and not peeled, but cut in two and laid on the laths with their skins downwards so as to save the juice. On shoving the drawer in, they are soon dried by the hot air of the stove and laid up.—Peaches dried thus eat like raisins. With a paring machine, which may be had for a dollar or two, apples or pears may be pared, and sufficient quantity dried to keep a family in pies, and apple bread and milk, till apples come again. With a paring machine, one person can pare for five or six cutters.

ARTIFICIAL PONDS.

Pastures that are destitute of water, should have artificial ponds made in them, for watering places.

"Observe where rushes, reeds, flags, and other aquatic plants grow spontaneously; or where frogs are observed to lie squatted down close to the ground in order to receive its moisture. Or observe where a vapour is frequently seen to rise from the same spot. Some say, whenever little swarms of flies are seen constantly flying in the same place, and near the ground, in the morning after sun-rise, there is water underneath."—"If a well is made in a sloping ground, and the declivity is sufficient to give it a horizontal vent, it will be worth the husbandman's while to dig such a passage, and by means of pipes, or any other conveyance, to carry the water across the light soil, through which it might otherwise sink. The greatest quantity of water will be obtained in this manner, because there will be a continual stream." There is no difficulty in making a durable pond in a clayey soil. Let a large hollow basin be made in such earth, and it will preserve the water that falls in rain. But it is apt to be thick and dirty, if some pains be not taken to prevent it. The declivity, by which the cattle enter, should be paved, and gravel should be spread on the bottom. Or it might be better if the whole were paved.

There are many large natural ponds, which have outlets in one part, and are supplied by brooks or rivers in other parts; but a greater number of smaller ponds which are perfectly stagnant, unless when they are agitated by winds.—Such ponds as the latter, in hot seasons, are apt to become putrid, and contaminate the air about them. For this reason they should, if possible, be drained. And when the water is not deep, and an outlet can be made without too much cost, they should be drained for the sake of reclaiming the soil. This will be of great value, as it commonly is found to be extremely rich, being made up of the finest particles of soil, wafted into them by winds, and of decayed vegetable substances, besides the fine mould washed into them by rains.

Many farms contain little sunken spots, which are most of the year covered with water, and produce some aquatic bushes and weeds. These are notorious harbours for frogs; and are also called frog ponds. They should be drained if it be practicable. It is commonly the case, however, that draining them in the common way, by making an outlet, would cost more than they would be worth when drained, because of the height of the land on every side. But in this case if the banks be not clay, they may be drained in the following manner.

Take notice on which side land that is lower than the pond is nearest. On that side, in the bank near the pond, dig a kind of cellar, two or three feet deeper than the surface of the pond; do it in a dry season. If a hard stratum appear, dig through it; and leave digging where the bottom is loose gravel or sand. Then make an open or a covered drain from the pond to the cellar.—The water will be discharged from the pond, and soak into the earth through the bottom of the cellar, till a scurf is formed on the bottom that will stop the water from soaking into the earth. This scurf should be broken from time to time, and taken away with a long handled hoe. Or, the cellar may be filled up with refuse stones, which I think is preferable to the other method.

If the pond should not then become sufficiently dry, a small ditch should be drawn round it, and discharge itself into the cellar. The land that is thus gained will be rich muck, much of which may be carted away for manure; and common earth, or sand, may replace it, without detriment to the soil.—*Deane's New England Farmer.*

BREAD.

The disease called dyspepsia has become so general and obistinate in this city, as to constitute one of the most terible plagues with which we are afflicted. There is scarcely one in five among persons of sedentary habits, who are not more or less affected by it. We have no doubt the principal cause of its prevalence is the unwholesome nature of the bread in common use.—This, like many other articles of food, has been refined till its nutritious qualities are almost destroyed. For the sake of fineness and whiteness, the coarser, but more nourishing particles, are excluded from its composition; and it is wrought into a tough, dry, and indigestible substance, highly pernicious to the stomach. Fortunately for the health of our citizens, an opposition line of some extent in the baking business, has of late years been set on foot, for the making of what is called family bread. This, as it is not refined to death, may be eaten with safety. Another kind, of which large quantities are now baked, called bran bread, and made of unbolted flour, is the only one proper for confirmed cases of the dyspepsia, many of which have been cured by the use of it. Though brown and coarse in its appearance, it is quite palitable.—*N. Y. Mirror.*

Steam Boats.—In the summer of the year 1807, Fulton for the first time ascended the Hudson river from New York to Albany, in a boat propelled by steam. This was the first successful experiment of the kind ever made. In a letter that he addressed to his friend, Joel Barlow, under date of August 22, 1807, Mr Fulton observes:

"My steam boat voyage to Albany and back has turned out rather more favourable than I had calculated. I ran it up in 32 hours, and down in 30. The latter is just five miles an hour. I had a light breeze against me the whole way, going and coming, so that no use was made of my sails." His boat was comparatively a rude structure, and his engine of small power. After a lapse of twenty years, we now witness numerous steam boats, capacious to an extreme, elegant in form and finish, and which, without much exaggeration, might be called floating palaces. But in swiftness, as well as in elegance, the progress of improvement has been great. Instead of five miles an hour, they now run at the rate of ten or eleven, and, in some instances, twelve.—*Alb. Arg.*

The *Hop Duty* (by which the product of the year is estimated) was stated to produce 95,000*l.*

Boston and Providence Rail Road.—We understand that the Commissioners of the Board of Internal Improvement finished viewing the different proposed routes of the Boston and Providence Rail Road on Saturday last, and intend soon to commence the survey. For a greater part of the distance three and in some instances four, different routes have been proposed by the inhabitants of the different towns, and examined by the Commissioners,—the most westerly passing near the Wrentham meeting-house, and the most easterly, near the Mansfield meeting-house. It seems the route is not yet fixed upon, and will not be, as we understand, until some surveys are made for the purpose of making a more accurate comparison. It is however pretty satisfactorily ascertained, that a Rail Way may be constructed between the two capitals, without a variation of more than 25 or 27 feet in the mile from a level, excepting a distance of three or four miles about the middle of the route, where in the transportation from Boston to Providence, two horses will be required for the load that may be transported over the rest of it by one. From the summit of the route to Providence, the descent is gradual and pretty uniform, and it seems probable that no extra power will be required in this part of the route, in either direction. The route on the whole, is much more favourable than was anticipated.

The inhabitants on the different routes have given the Commissioners every possible facility and assistance in exploring the grounds, and though those of each town and neighbourhood are inclined to think favourably of their own route yet they all agree, in the most liberal and public spirited manner, that the best route should be selected, whether it prove to be their own or some other. The people of Providence and Pawtucket express their readiness to co-operate cordially and liberally in the undertaking, and no local jealousies or rivalships seem likely to throw any obstacles in the way of the enterprise, the only competition as yet exhibited, being a generous emulation in its favour.—*Centinel.*

NEW INVENTION.

Mr Noah Safford of Springfield, Vt. has lately invented a Hydraulic Machine which bids fair to equal, if not exceed any thing of the kind. Its operation as a common pump is very easy and effectual, and leaves no doubt but it will be a powerful instrument for throwing water. Their simplicity and ease of construction is such, that they can be afforded very low. One of the largest dimensions and up to all necessary power probably will not cost much over $100, the smaller at a much lower price.

SURGICAL.

A distressing case occurred last week, in the family of Mr Michael Metcalf, Jr. of this town.—One of the children, two years old, was playing with some kidney beans, one of which, half an inch in length, slipped into the treachea, or windpipe. This took place about 9 o'clock. The distress of the child increasing, it became apparent in the afternoon, that suffocation would soon end the sufferings of the little innocent. The parents then consented that the operation of bronchotomy, cutting into the windpipe, should be performed. This operation, by Dr. Twichell, seven hours after the accident, was completely successful and the child is now in perfect health.—*Keene paper.*

LUCERNE.

(Continued from page 36.)

After having completed the extracts from the Abbe Rozier on Lucerne, we met with an English work, which is still more full on the same subject; and as it would be well to put our readers in possession of so many facts, and of such a variety of authority, as wholly to satisfy their minds of the great value of this grass, we shall insert copious extracts from this English work, "the Complete Farmer," printed 1793.

Columella, an ancient writer, calls Lucerne the choicest of all fodder, because it will last ten years, and will bear being cut down four, ad sometimes six times a year; it enriches the land in which it grows, fattens the cattle fed with it, and is a remedy for sick cattle. Yet notwithstanding it was so much esteemed by the ancients, and hath been cultivated to great advantage in France and Switzerland, for many years, it has not yet found so good a reception in England as it justly deserves; [this was written 34 years ago] nor is it cultivated here in any considerable quantity, though it will succeed as well in this country, as in either of the last mentioned, being extremely hardy, and resisting the severest cold of our climate. [This is as true in Massachusetts: it is hardier than Clover.] Mr. Roque lays it down as a maxim from his *own* practice, that Lucerne will grow on any soil, provided it be not too wet, to rot the roots. The strongest land is however to be preferred, and the deeper the soil, the better will be the crop. The land should be prepared in the same manner as for barley, and brought to a fine tilth. The Lucerne should be sown broadcast, in fine weather, at the rate of fourteen pounds to the acre. If grain is sown with it, it should only be for half a crop, otherwise it will be apt to destroy the Lucerne, especially if the grain should prove rank; but if no grain is sown with it, the Lucerne will be better. Lucerne may be sown from the beginning of March, to the end of of May. If you sow grain with it ever so thin, and it should prove luxuriant, it had better be cut green, lest it should hurt the Lucerne. The grain thus cut may be given to cattle green, or if properly dried will make excellent hay. Lucerne will not grow on newly broken-up land; it must be tilled a year or two; potatoes make the best preparation for Lucerne. In Languedoc they sow no grain with it; but they cut over the Lucerne when it is six inches high, so as to keep down weeds and other plants. In Normandy, whose climate resembles that of England, they sow grain with it. When the plants are a year old it will be proper to go over the ground with a large harrow, to root up annual weeds and grass. The harrow will not hurt the roots of Lucerne, they being very tough; this should be done in dry weather, before the Lucerne begins to sprout, and if there are any patches, where the seed miscarried, you can throw in a little seed upon them. The second year, you may run over your Lucerne with a smooth plough, *without* a coulter, to prevent the roots being too much hurt, and leave it rough a few days, then harrow it smooth. One not used to Lucerne would be apt to think that ploughing would ruin it, but experience shows the contrary. In making into hay, it should be cut as soon as the bloom appears; it must not be spread like other grass, but lie in the swarth, like Clover, and turned in the same manner, or the leaves, which are most nutritive, will fall off. If suffered to stand too long before mowing, the stalks become too hard for cattle, and it loses much of its goodness. The hay is good for all sorts of cattle, and when horses are fed with it, they should not have their full allowance of corn; the Lucerne answers, in a great measure, the purpose of both hay and grain. It is also the most profitable fodder to feed horses with in summer by mowing, and giving it to them green. If the land is good, the produce is incredible. Mr. Roque says he has seen it mowed five times in a season, yielding, at the five mowings, eight loads of hay per acre.

As the duration of Lucerne has been a question of dispute, this author quotes the authority of an able cultivator. "As to its duration, it will last as long as the ground is kept clean. I saw some at Mr. Middleman's at Grantham, in his garden, which was forty years old, and it was very fine." The Practical Cultivator says "It ought not to be cut except when it is in blossom, and that is but three times a year, but after mowing the third crop, instead of cutting a fourth, you may feed it, but when the frosts come you must take your cattle off, because they would bruise the young stalks. If it is rank in September, it is dangerous for cows, it being too feeding [hearty]; but turn horses and sheep upon it. As there is no grass, which has come to our knowledge, which gives the cows so much milk, you may let them graze in the afternoon when the dew is off, about one hour; when made hay it is likewise the best for milk; wherever it is much cultivated they prefer it to all other kinds of hay. When I was in Monosque, a city in Provence, the carriers fed their horses upon it, preferably to any other, without corn; and they were fat and in fine order. It is acknowledged to be the most feeding [hearty?] pasture, either green or in hay. I trust not barely to report, but have found it so myself. Many are apt to condemn it, but it is for want of knowledge. It has been introduced for a long number of years, but so little noticed that 21 years ago, [that is in 1772,] there were not 200 weight of Lucerne seeds to be sold among all the Seedsmen in London, and I had much ado to re-introduce it; but now, [in 1793,] there is a *prodigious consumption* of it."

[Note. The fate of this grass has been the same in the United States. More than twenty years ago, some seeds were imported and succeeded admirably, yet it is only within a few seasons that we have had any for sale; probably the want of regular Seedsmen,* and the trouble of importing from France, were among the causes of its slow progress in the United States.]

"Mr. Beadle, a farmer in Kent, has fourteen acres of it, for which he had a premium. When I called upon him in *May* last, he had mowed his Lucerne, and sold it on the spot for three guineas a load. Those that bought this hay must be well acquainted with its goodness to fetch it from the spot, though they lived ten or twelve miles distant. Horses will work with it green, as well as with hay and corn; they do not sweat with it as they do with other green fodder. It is objected, that it is difficult to make; it is no more so than Clover. All hay is difficult to make in wet weather, but if the weather is bad, put it up in ricks when dry, and between every layer strow a little salt, and that will recover all the damage the rain may have done."

Another writer says, "Lucerne should be cut when the stalks are about fifteen or sixteen inches high, on an average; he cut it in three years sixteen times, or more than five times a year; by the 9th of April, one year, some of the stalks were seventeen inches high, when no field in the neighborhood had grass more than four inches high. The same Lucerne was cut twice before any haymaking began in its neighborhood."

M. Miller, who appears to have cultivated Lucerne with great success, says, that you may cut it in the month of August, the first year, or year of sowing, and feed it afterwards with sheep. It will bear three cuttings and two feedings in a season. Of its capability of resisting cold he gives the following proof:—In the *very cold* winter of 1738–9, he had some roots of Lucerne dug up and laid upon the surface from October to March, when he planted them, and they shot out vigorously soon after; wet however will destroy the roots. Mr. Miller says, that the most profitable mode of consuming Lucerne, is to cut and give it as green fodder. This is the celebrated Philip Miller, author of the Gardener's Dict.: the most respectable authority that could be quoted. Mr. Chateauvieux of Switzerland, by planting Lucerne in rows obtained at the rate of seven tons and two-thirds of hay from an acre, in five crops in one season. Switzerland is a cold country. Mr. Chateauvieux found, that when the thermometer fell to zero the Lucerne did not suffer. Mr. John Wynn Baker, of Ireland, appears to have been very successful in the culture of Lucerne. He says, that in order to ascertain how far Lucerne may be worth the farmer's attention, he made an experiment with a horse, to see how much Lucerne he would eat, so as to learn how many horses an acre of Lucerne would support. The horse he chose was a large one, and had been ploughing all day without food, and he eat forty-nine pounds of Lucerne in the course of the night. Lucerne he says at four cuttings will yield 35840 pounds to an acre. [weighed green, no doubt.] This is a low calculation; an acre therefore will maintain at the rate of 49 pounds per day to each, 5 horses for 20 weeks. No natural pasture can do anything like this; add to this, the profit of making dung all summer.

Mr. Duhamel, the famous naturalist, gives his testimony also in favor of Lucerne; he had forty tons of Lucerne (green) upon an English acre, which he computes at *ten tons* of *hay*. By this remark it would seem that he cut it while in blossom, for Lucerne if cut before it flowers, loses 80 per cent, and therefore his 40 tons would only have produced eight of cured hay. We could much extend these extracts, but we have said enough to induce those, who are convinced as we are by experiment, that it is suited to our climate, to try it extensively.

*This difficulty will in future be obviated. Fresh Lucerne seed can always be purchased at the office of the New England Farmer.

Hemp.—The superiority of Russian over American hemp, is attributed to the process of rotting; the former being rotted by water, and the latter by *dew*. A lot of hemp, rotted in running water, in Ohio, has been considered by the rope makers in New York, equal in all respects to the Russian. Flax is uniformly, we believe, rotted in this country by water, and we see no reason why hemp could not be with the same facility.

[Prov. Am.]

AMERICAN BAY TREE.

Among the plants which deck the summer of New-England, the tall bells of the Lily are most conspicuons above the countless blossoms of the vallies: The laurel spreads along the hill sides, at one season presenting a wide landscape of gorgeous flowers, and at another exhibiting a rich bed of evergreen foliage. The Rhododendron or American Bay Tree, more magnificent than either, seeks the shelter of the forest and flourishes in the beauty of maturity in some tangled thicket where its buds seemed destined to expand unseen. This splendid shrub clothes the summits of mountains, the shores of lakes or the marshy and damp spots where are the sources of rivers. The banks of the Charles River, and the borders of Sabago Pond in Maine, are the only localities of its growth mentioned by Dr. Bigelow. It is found flourishing in a wood within the town of Leicester.

The leaves are broad, long, and of a deep green color. The flowers expand in large bunches on the ends of the stalks, and are shaded with a tint of pink. The plant assumes the character of a large struggling bush, irregular in shape and having rough bark. The great elegance of its flower and the magnificence of its foliage, recommend it for cultivation as an ornamental shrub, instead of those pampered exotics whose nurture and education consume so much time and care better devoted to develope the beauties and properties of our own native productions. It is said to be difficult to tame, and disposed to dwindle under the hand of cultivation; but probably the experiment of transplanting has not been made under favorable circumstances. Natives of the burning sands of the line and of extreme north, are made to twine their branches sociably together in the parlors of the wealthy. The addition of a splendid ornament to the garden would recompense the care necessary to bring the Rhododendron from his forest bower.—*National Ægis.*

BUILDING.

BY DR. MEASE OF PHILADELPHIA.

A very capital error in building in the United States is, the thinness of the walls. A house with thin walls, is both cold in winter, and hot in summer; a house with thick walls just the reverse. To the N. W. and N. E. in particular, the walls ought to be three times the common thickness.

The opportunity here offered, cannot be omitted of bearing a testimony against the common but uneconomical, unhealthy and dangerous practice of erecting wooden buildings, particularly in cities. The evil, however, will correct itself. The frequent fires in Boston; the almost entire destruction of Savannah a few years since, and the dreadcent conflagration of Portsmouth, N. H. speak more forcibly than words, as to the propriety of abolishing the custom of building with wood. It is to be regretted, that in the United States advocates for wooden structures are found. To such the following observations are offered.

By building of wood, much immediate as well as remote inconvenience, is to be expected; and certainly, however suddenly felt may be the comfort arising from an increase of despatch, the numerous considerations of perishableness, want of safety, and call for repairs, added to the reflection, that the public taste is, for the time, deprived of one great field of exertion, will very much weigh with an enlightened people, when once they become awakened to their advantages, and proud of the singular novelty of their physical and moral opportunities of situation.

Wood, considered as a material of architecture, is not only perishable, but it is fearfully accessible to all the dangers of wind and fire, and is not so strong as brick or stone. To these objections may be added, the consideration, which will weigh with the man of taste, that wood is unsusceptible of chaste ornament. If it be adorned, it is in a finical, puerile taste, in which there is as great a distance from the simplicity of the Grecian, as variance from the whimsical, yet often pleasantly fanciful assemblage of the Gothic style.

Bachelors only ought to build of wood: men who have but a life estate in this world, and who care little for those who come after them. Those who have either children or a wife to leave behind them, will build of brick, if they wish to leave monuments of kindness, rather than a rent-charge, behind them. A well-finished brick house, however small, is not only more elegant, and immediately useful and safe, but it is cheaper in the end than a wooden one. It needs fewer repairs; its prime cost is little more: it is a property which yields more, inasmuch as, if rented out, it carries from the per cent. of rent, fewer of the eating repairs, which render the profits of wooden rent-rolls, so equivocal and precarious. With respect to insurance, which in all populous places sooner or later takes place, it bears an analogy to policies on annuities, where one subject lingers under a precarious existence, and the other is blessed with youth and a sound constitution. In point of ease, taste, and duration, there can be no hesitation between them. The whole doubt in the mind of a builder rests in the competition between immediate convenience and the remote advantage of an unknown duration; for a good brick house will be habitable for centuries.

Considered politically, and in this government every citizen is on the watch of public happiness and political warfare, there is this good attending brick buildings; from durable habitations, in which more money has been spent, and more of the refined tastes gratified, an affection for the soil is increased. A habit of thought arises, favourable to population: a greater proportion of money is thus realised. The great national fund of course is augmented, fixed to the soil and pledged to society.

The last and highest consideration is, that migration would be less easy, and not so common, were a finer spirit of building to prevail. Were the Tartars to build houses instead of wagons and tents, as Baron Tot says they still do, and as they did when the Huns impelled the Goths against the feeble Roman empire, they would not rove, and their country might become a land of tillage.—The facility with which we may move, is a strong incentive to that love of change which it particularly interests us to repress in our citizens.

Prolific.—An Irish lady now resident in Pennsylvania, was a short time since delivered of *five children* at a birth, but who unfortunately did not long survive.—The same lady before she left Ireland had five children at another birth, and twins while she resided in New-York; making twelve children in eighteen months. Had she resided in France under *Napoleon*, he would have pronounced her the 'first woman of the age,' and if we have many such emigrants the next Census of the United States must be wonderfully increased

RAILWAY FROM BOSTON.

The commissioners appointed to make a reconnoisance and survey of the country between Boston and the Hudson River, with a view of determining upon the practicability and expediency of a Railway, and upon the most eligible route to be adopted for such a work, passed through this town, on Thursday, on their way Westward.—They have thus far made a very careful and thorough examination of the country. They were accompanied, for a few miles to the West, by Governor Lincoln.

The Survey of the Commissioners is to be extended into the territory of the State of New-York; and we understand that the Governor, in compliance with the direction of the Legislature, has, within a few days, addressed a communication to Governor Clinton, enclosing a copy of the Resolve of the Legislature relating to the Survey, announcing to him the appointment of Commissioners, and requesting from him that countenance and favour which may warrant the Commissioners n making, with the State of New-York, the inquiries, surveys, and admeasurements necessary to the execution of their commission. We are informed that Governor Clinton has, in answer, with great cordiality signified his assent to the proposed Survey, so far as the Executive of that State is concerned; and that the success of this important undertaking, from its commencement to its consummation, will be viewed by him with great interest and high gratification—*Wor. Yeom.*

Nearly two thirds of the distilleries and brewers in and about Glasgow have given up business for the present, in consequence of the scarcity and dearth of malt, hops, &c. Malt has now become so scarce, that it is with the greatest trouble and inconvenience running about for it that it can be got, and it is as high as 52s. a bolt. Hops that at Martinmas could have been bought for £5 a pocket, now cost £11.

What a contrast?—In the spring of the year 1815 the editor of the Black Rock Gazette paid at the rate of $5 a cwt. for transporting a printing press, and types from Seneca Falls to Buffalo in wagons, a distance of 116 miles.—Goods, by any considerable quantities, can now be transported from the city of New York to that of Pittsburg, a distance of about 575 miles, for a few cents over $2 a cwt. including all expenses!

American System.—A meeting of the *planters*, has been called in Natches for the purpose of forming an association for the encouragement of domestic manufactures.

It may be useful to our fair readers to know that muffs, tippets and other articles of fur, which when put into any kind of wood or paper box or drawer, are so generally liable to injury from moths, if put into tin boxes, will remain for years uninjured.

A meeting of the officers of the Revolutionary Army has lately been held in Baltimore, for the purpose of again memorializing Congress on the subject of the half pay which was promised to them in 1780. The Hon. Philip Reed, of Maryland, presided.

A company has been formed in N. York for the purpose of settling sugar plantations in Florida.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 1827.

SOW WINTER RYE.

You cannot sow your winter rye too early in September. If it be sowed early, its roots will get such firm hold of the soil before winter, that it will be the less apt to be laid bare by the heaving of the ground by frost. In the Memoirs of the New York Board of Agriculture, vol. i. page 82, it is observed, that rye should be sowed the last week "in August or the first week in September, at the rate of about 36 quarts per acre, some say 48 qts. But if not sowed at that time, it ought to be delayed until late in November, so that it may not come up till Spring. Mr A. Worthington had a good crop, which he sowed in a January snow-storm. Rye raised on upland makes much better flour than that which is raised on low or damp land."

Rye may be sown to great advantage for green fodder for cattle and sheep, particularly the latter, in the spring. When it is meant for this purpose, it should not only be sowed early in autumn, but should be sowed thicker than when it is intended to stand for a crop of seed. Some say that it may well be mowed for hay two or three times in the course of the summer, and this piece of husbandry is recommended for farmers, whose lands are mostly dry and unsuitable for grass.

The quantity of seed to be sown on an acre should vary according to the soil, and the time of sowing, and the purpose for which it is intended. If it be sowed in the latter part of August, or beginning of September, and is intended to stand for a seed-crop, the quantity should vary from 32 to 48 quarts, according to the goodness of the soil. Later sowing requires more seed, and in some cases two bushels to the acre will not be too great a quantity. Bannister's Husbandry says "when this grain is sown for sheep-feed, it is proper to allow 3 bushels to the acre, for where the blade, haulm, or stalks form the primary object, a much larger proportion of seed is requisite than when the crop is meant for harvesting."

ON THE CULTURE OF WHEAT AND OTHER CULMIFEROUS PLANTS.

Culmiferous plants have two sorts of roots.—The first originate with the germination of the grain, and are always under the soil, and are called the seminal roots: the second spring from the first joint which is formed above the surface of the soil, and from that joint strike down into the soil; these are called the coronal roots. The coronal roots appear chiefly intended for drawing nourishment from the soil, the richest part of soils being on or near the surface. From these facts some important hints may be derived as to the culture of wheat, rye, &c. The use of stirring the surface in spring to facilitate the entrance of the coronal roots is obvious; the immediate effect of a top dressing is also apparent, and also that manures may be ploughed in too deep to give the full amount of their beneficial effects to grain crops or grasses.

To procure new varieties of wheats, (says Mr Loudon,) the ordinary mode is to select from a field a spike or spikes from the same stalk, which has the qualities sought for; such as larger grains, thinner chaff, stiffer straw, a tendency to earliness or lateness, &c.; and picking out the best grains from such ear or ears, to sow them in suitable soil in an open airy part of a garden. When the produce is ripe, select the best ears, and from these the best grains, and sow these, and so on till a bushel or more is obtained, which may then be sown in a field apart from any other wheat. In this way, many of the varieties of the common winter wheat have been obtained. Other varieties have assumed their distinctive marks from having been long cultivated on the same soil and climate, and take local names, as the Hertfordshire red, Essex white, &c.

Marshall (Yorkshire) mentions a case in which a man of *accurate* observation, having, in a piece of wheat perceived a plant of uncommon strength and luxuriance, diffusing its branches on every side, and setting its closely surrounding neighbors at defiance, marked it; and at harvest removed it separately. The produce was 15 ears, yielding 604 grains of a strong bodied, liver coloured wheat, differing in general appearance from every other variety he had seen. The chaff was smooth without awns, [beards or bristles] and of the colour of the grain; the straws stout and reedy.—These 604 grains were planted singly, nine inches asunder, filling about 40 square yards of ground, on a clover stubble, the remainder of the ground being sown with wheat in the ordinary way; by which means extraordinary trouble and destruction by birds were avoided. The produce was two gallons and a half, weighing 20½ lbs. of prime grain for seed, besides some pounds for seconds. One grain produced 35 ears, yielding 1235 grains; so that the second year's produce was sufficient to plant an acre of ground. What deters farmers from improvements of this nature is probably the mischievousness of birds; from which at harvest it is scarcely possible to preserve a small patch of grain, especially in a garden or other ground situated near a habitation; but by carrying on the improvement in a field of grain of the same nature, that inconvenience is got rid of. In this situation, however, the botanist will be apprehensive of danger from the floral farina of the surrounding crop. But from what observations Marshall has made he is of opinion his fears will be groundless. No evil of this kind occurred, though the cultivation of the new variety was carried on among *white* wheat.

But the most systematic mode of procuring new varieties is by crossing two sorts, as in breeding: that is by impregnating the female organs of the blossoms of one ear with the fecundating matter or pollen of the male organs of the blossom of another variety of a different quality. Thus, supposing a farmer wished to render a very good variety which he was in the habit of cultivating somewhat earlier. Let him procure in the blossoming season, from a very early soil, some spikes of an early sort just coming into blossom, and let him put the ends of these in water and set them in the shade so as to retard their fully blossoming till the plants he has destined to become the females have come into flower. Then let him cut out all the male organs of the latter before they have advanced so far as to impregnate the stigmas; and having done this, let him dust the stigma with the blossoming ears of the early or male parent. The impregnated stalks must then be kept apart from other wheats so as the progeny may be true.—When the grains ripen, sow the best, and from the produce when ripe, select the earliest and finest spikes for seed. Sow them and repeat the choice till a bushel or two of seed is procured.—This operation has been successfully performed by T. A. Knight, and though it may be reckoned too delicate for farmers in general, it will be looked on by the philosophical agriculturist as not improbably leading to important results, as has attended the practice in the case of garden fruits and flowers.

The manures best calculated for wheat are allowed by all agricultural chemists, to be animal matters and lime. The former has a direct influence in supplying that essential constituent to wheaten flower, gluten; and the latter azote and lime, both actually found in the straw of wheat.—At all events, it is certain wheat will not thrive on any soil that does not contain lime. In this Sir H. Davy, Chaptal, Professor Thaer, and Grisenthwaite fully agree.

R. H. Gardiner, Esq. in some observations on the culture of wheat (originally published in the Hallowell Gazette, and republished in the N. E. Farmer, vol. ii. page 35,) says "all that I have sown on light soil, has looked well in the spring; but what was sown late, that is, after the middle of September, has been invariably struck with rust before it was ripe; while what was sown early has as invariably given a good crop. Most of my experiments have been made on green sward. After haying I have selected a piece of ground which required ploughing, and generally of a light loam. I have ploughed it once and harrowed it twice or thrice, putting on between the harrowing, from 15 to 20 loads of manure to the acre, and sowing the seed before the last harrowing. I have always fed it in the autumn, believing it would be less likely during the winter to mould or die, if eaten close, than if left long on the ground. I have found that the lighter the soil the less liable was the wheat to be destroyed by the winter.

"The cultivation of winter wheat is preferable to that of summer wheat on a great variety of accounts. It is sown and the ground prepared at a season of much greater leisure. One of the great disadvantages of our northern climate is the extreme shortness of our spring, so that it is difficult for our farmers to complete the work, which is absolutely necessary to be done, after the frost is out of the ground, and before the season of planting is over. If therefore any work, as the sowing of wheat can be postponed till the autumn, it is of great importance. The winter wheat is less liable to injury from insects than the summer; mine has never suffered from them. It affords good fall food, and the larger quantity of roots and stubble to be ploughed in make the land in a better state for the next crop. The grain is heavier, and the same number of pounds will yield a larger quantity of flour, and of a much superior quality. For these reasons, it cannot be too strongly urged upon the attention of our farmers. From my experience I should recommend that winter wheat should not be sowed later than the middle of September, and the soil on which it is sowed should be a light loam, and that about five pecks of seed be sown to the acre. I have also found the use of plaster on wheat advantageous, as also rolling the wheat after it is well up. Winter wheat might probably do better after peas and beans than on green sward."

An able article "on the cultivation of wheat in New England," written by Judge Buel, of Albany, was published in the New England Farmer, vol.

PAGINATION INCORRECT

v. page 217. Mr Buel is of opinion "that the soils of New England, being of primitive formation, are not naturally adapted to the culture of wheat, because they do not contain all the elements of that valuable grain. And that this natural defect can be remedied only by the application of animal manures, or manures containing the elements of animal matter. Animal matter must furnish the gluten which is the principal and most nourishing constituent of wheat. The elements of gluten exist in bones, urine, horn, hair, night soil, in the refuse of the tanner, morocco dresser, tallow chandler, soap-boiler, the offal of the butcher, the dung of fowls, soot, woollen rags, fish, &c. And the proper application of these substances, in sufficient quantities will ensure a crop of wheat."—See New England Farmer, vol. i. pages 103, 132, 178, 379, vol. ii. pages 28, 33, 41, 53, vol. iii. 353, vol. iv. 309, vol. v. 67, 217.

New England Farmer's Almanack, for **1828.**

In press, at the New England Farmer Office, and will be published to-morrow, the *New England Farmer's Almanack*, for 1828. By Thomas G. Fessenden, Editor of the New England Farmer.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Although, in general, we dislike prefaces, especially to short and ephemeral productions, yet, in the present case, some apology may be deemed necessary for adding another almanack to the great number which annually issue from New England presses. We were induced to this proceeding by circumstances to which we shall briefly advert. As Editor and Proprietor of the New England Farmer, a paper devoted to Agriculture and Rural Economy, which has an extensive and increasing circulation, we have sources of intelligence, relative to improvements in agriculture and the useful arts, as well as means of distributing it, which the public good, as well as a regard to our own interest would seem to require that we should avail ourselves.

Knowledge of that kind, which ministers to the necessities, comforts, and conveniences of life, may, in the form of a small, cheap, annual publication, visit the fire sides and domiciles of many individuals, who cannot afford the money nor the time necessary to purchase and peruse the papers and volumes, composing the channels by which opulent intellect derives its mental treasures.

Should this year's NEW ENGLAND FARMER'S ALMANACK meet with the encouragement which our hopes lead us to anticipate, and present appearances promise, we shall issue it annually, as long as life, health, and circumstances favourable to its publication are granted by indulgent Providence.

THOMAS G. FESSENDEN.
JOHN B. RUSSELL.

This Almanack, in addition to the usual miscellaneous matter contained in similar works, will contain a Calendar of the Courts for each state in New England; the Sun's declination; and 10 pages of agricultural matter on the following subjects:

On Soaking Seed Corn in copperas water—on Small Farms—on Charcoal—on Fish used as a Manure—on Gapes or Pip in Poultry—Agricultural Axioms—on Fallen Fruit—on Staggers in swine—How to raise Cabbages, which shall not be club-footed by Dr. Green of Mansfield, Ms.—How to Fatten Fowls—A cheap method of preventing the disagreeable smell of Privies—Root Steamer, *with a drawing*—on Grafted Trees—on Painting walls to Mature Fruit—on Cattle stalls—Signs of a good Farmer—on Drying Peaches—on the value of Time—Machines for gathering Clover Heads, *with two illustrative engravings*—Sir Astley Cooper's Chilblain Ointment—on the cultivation of Turnips on a large scale, *with a drawing of a machine for the purpose*, &c.—Miscellanies.

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☞Country Dealers and others supplied on the most favorable terms.

THE THAMES TUNNEL.

Yesterday (July 17) Mr Brunel made another report to the Directors on the steps taken for the cleansing of the Tunnel. It appears by it, that the entire upper row of apartments in the shield have been cleared of the mud, and the leakage through them is at present so inconsiderable, that a few men at the hand pump are able to keep it clear. The water in the extremity of the shaft next the shield has been reduced to four feet, and persons could walk into the Tunnel this day, to the length of 70 feet without wetting their shoes. It is expected that the work will be resumed by the end of next week. The instalments on the stock are paid with an alacrity that demonstrates the utmost confidence of the Stockholders of the ultimate success of the undertaking.—*Lond. pap.*

American Canvass.—The Phenix Mill Company have reduced their prices so as to furnish their canvass at the cost of Russian duck. The excellence of this canvass, which has been extensively used by the government, the Packet Lines of New York, and the New Bedford whale ships, is well established. Capt. Austin, late of the ship Panther, of Boston, states that in a situation where the American and Russian canvass had been exposed to mildew, the former wore one quarter longer than the latter, and he has no doubt of its superiority in every respect. This article is for sale in any quantity, by Mr Joseph Howard, of this town.—*Essex Register.*

Bite of a Snake.—A Mr Schuyler of this city had a number of men employed at mowing in his meadow, who met with a large black snake and killed it. When the workmen came home from the meadow they told Mr Schuyler that they had killed a snake of a very unusual size. Mr Schuyler enquired where they had left it, and proposed going to find it and bring it home. When he found the place which his informers had pointed out, he saw a snake and picking up a handful of hay stooped down to take hold of it near its head. The snake instantly seized the finger of Mr Schuyler, coiled itself around his arm, throwing its extremity into his face and around his neck, biting very severely. Mr S. made several unsuccessful attempts to shake the serpent from his hold; at length he put his hand upon the ground and bruised the head of the snake with the heel of his boot. In this effort he made the animal relinquish his fangs, and succeeded in killing it.—Mr S. was much affected by the wound, and for several days its effect was doubtful, if not dangerous. Nearly a fortnight has elapsed since the accident, and Mr S. has not yet wholly recovered from it. It appeared that the snake which attacked Mr S. with such ferocity was not the one which the workmen had seen, but was probably its mate. It was of the common species of black-snake, and nearly five feet in length.—*Troy Budget.*

100 Saxony Rams were sold at Brighton on Friday last. and brought nearly $3000—average price $27. One sold for $64.

Cambridge Wit.—A gentleman of Cambridge College having a clubbed foot, which occasioned him to wear a shoe upon it of a particular make, and with a high heel, one of the college wits called him *Bildad the shuhite.*

For sale at the New England Farmer Office, No. 52 North Market Street.

Lucerne or French Clover seed—Red or Dutch Clover—White Honysuckle Clover, and other Grasses.—White Onion Seed.

With every variety of GARDEN SEEDS.

Horse Rake.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse,
One of Pire's patent revolving Horse Rakes
One of Willis's patent Side Hill Ploughs,-an excellent implement.

Medical Lectures—Boston. TIME CHANGED.

Medical Lectures of Harvard College will begin the THIRD WEDNESDAY IN OCTOBER, at the Medical College, Mason street, Boston. The time having been changed from the THIRD WEDNESDAY IN NOVEMBER, when they formerly began.

WALTER CHANNING,
Aug. 31, 1827. 8t Dean of the Medical Faculty.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Corrected every Thursday evening.

		FROM	TO
APPLES, best,	bbl		none
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	ton.	87 50	90 00
pearl do.		92 00	97 00
BEANS, white,	bush	1 50	1 67
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs. new,	bbl.	9 50	10 00
cargo, No 1, new,		8 50	8 75
" No 2, new,		7 50	8 00
BUTTER, inspect. No. 1. new,	lb.	12	15
CHEESE, new milk,		7	9
skimmed milk,		3	5
FLAX			
FLAX SEED	bush	90	1 00
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St	bbl.	5 25	5 50
Genesee,		4 50	4 87
Rye, best,			none
GRAIN, Rye	bush	63	65
Corn		60	62
Barley			1 00
Oats		33	35
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort, new,	lb.	9	10
HOPS, No 1, Inspection		12	15
LIME,	cask	1 00	1 10
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern	gal.	77	78
PLAISTER PARIS retails at	ton.	2 75	3 00
PORK, Bone Middlings, new,	bbl.	13 00	14 00
navy, mess, do.		12 00	12 25
Cargo, No 1, do.		11 50	12 00
SEEDS, Herd's Grass,	bush	2 00	2 25
Clover	lb.	8	10
WOOL, Merino, full blood, wash		35	48
do do unwashed		20	25
do 3-4 washed		28	34
do 1-2 & 4 do		25	30
Native do		20	25
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		33	37
2d sort		25	30
do Spinning, 1st sort		28	32

PROVISION MARKET.

BEEF, best pieces	lb.	8	12
PORK, fresh, best pieces,		8	11
" whole hogs,			6½
VEAL,		6	10
MUTTON,		5	9
POULTRY,		15	20
BUTTER, keg & tub,		12	16
lump, best,		16	20
EGGS,		12	15
MEAL, Rye, retail,	bush	75	80
Indian, do.		65	75
POTATOES, (new)		45	50
CIDER, (according to quality)	bbl.	2 00	4 00

Miscellanies.

A WISH.

Mine be a cot beside the hill,
A bee hive's hum shall soothe my ear;
A willowy brook that turns a mill,
With many a fall shall linger near.

The swallow oft beneath my thatch
Shall twitter from her clay-built nest;
Oft shall the pilgrim lift the latch,
And share my meal, a welcome guest.

Around my ivied porch shall spring,
Each fragrant flower that drinks the dew;
And Mary at her wheel shall sing,
In russet gown and apron blue.

The village church among the trees,
Where first our marriage vows were given;
With merry peals shall swell the breeze,
And point with taper spire to heaven.

EPITAPH IN A COUNTRY CHURCH YARD.

Reader, pass on, nor waste your time
On bad biography and bitter rhyme;
For what I am this cumbrous clay insures,
And what I was is no affair of yours.

THE GAME OF LOSING TIME.

In skimming over Mrs Piozzi's anecdotes of Dr Johnson, the following article struck me forcibly; She informs us, that before she had exchanged her well known British name of Thrale for that imported from Italy, which she now enjoys, she, with two other ladies, and Dr Johnson, formed a party at whist, and amused themselves in play for a considerable portion of the evening. At the conclusion, Mrs Piozzi asked the Doctor if he had lost any thing?—"Only my *time*, madam," replied the uncouth moralist.

Rude and indecent as this answer may be thought especially when addressed to fashionable women, who had shewn great condescension in admitting Caliban among them, it conveys a most excellent lesson, if properly attended to. On this principle, every man who games must be a loser, and, what is more to be lamented, his loss must be irreparable.

I fear I should be an unwelcome correspondent if, on the subject of gaming, I should speak too much in the style of a philosopher. It would be a difficult task to persuade your readers that *time* is infinitely more valuable than *gold:* I have frequently heard players complain of the loss of the latter, but hardly ever the former. They have not always in their recollection, what Dr Young has said upon this important subject.

. . . Time destroyed
Is suicide, where more than blood is spilt.

Dr Young's observations are very pretty, and in my present state of mind, very proper to be attended to. Be it known to ye, gentlemen, that I lost a thousand guineas in the course of yesterday evening; which has almost turned my brain, induced me to commence moralizer, and to congratulate myself on having done it in a *few hours*; since time is so highly estimated by the learned of all ages.

But, with all proper deference to their superior judgment, I had rather say, with Dr Johnson, that I have "only lost my time," than acknowledge to you, (as the fact is) that *I have only lost a thousand guineas.*

Forgive my raving, gentlemen, for "I fear I am not in my perfect mind." Whilst I am penning this incoherent epistle to you, I doubt not but I am still playing the losing game: Having lost my *money*, I am now staking my *time*, which must infallibly be lost, if you refuse a place in your very excellent miscellany for these eccentric reveries.

But though time is so tremendously and highly spoken of by divines, poets, &c. it is treated with less reverence by the generality of mankind: the sporting gentleman *bets upon* it, and enjoys it: the musician *keeps* it and *beats* it; the saunterer *kills* it; and the bookseller makes money by disposing of an annual map of a small portion of it. Many ladies lose time; and they would be extremely happy if they could also lose the effects of it, for it behaves unmercifully rude to youth and beauty.

Sporting Magazine.

Pomp is so much the seducing notion of a Neapolitan, that if he cannot hire a boy to walk after his wife to church, he will put on his sword and follow her himself, to give her an air of grandeur. An Englishman would rob on the high way, or sell himself for a slave, with as much good will as follow his wife to church in that manner.—*Angeloni's Letters.*

Do young gentlemen study Geography?—A day or two since, while a canal boat was passing by this village, on the deck of which several gentlemen were speaking about the beautiful situation of *Waterloo*, on the Canada shore, opposite this place, a spruce young gentleman, who wore a cane, and sported a white beaver, begged to be informed "where the battle of *Waterloo* was fought." All stared at such consummate ignorance. "Gentlemen, where's the spot," he again inquired—none answered. Confused, he cast his eye abaft, and discovered the ebony hue of the cook's bright countenance; the cook naturally thought that the question should be solved, so as soon as he caught the eye of the spark, he exclaimed emphatically "*Urop, massa,*" covering his ivory with a skimmer, as he ran below. The deck roared with laughter. The "mortified man" rushed into the cabin, and betook him to *to his books.*—*Black Rock Gazette.*

A good chance for authors.—In the New-York papers, a young man advertises that, having his evenings to himself, he 'would write up a gentleman's book for a small compensation.'

My kingdom for a horse.—A gentleman in Ohio gives notice that he will exchange a terrestrial and celestial globe for a horse.

An expensive Person. It was said of a person who never dined at home, and who was always speaking ill of the people, that he never opened his mouth but at the expense of his neighbour.

The Maryland papers mention that the venerable Charles Carroll was suffering under a disease of the eye, which it is feared would prove fatal to the sight.

Extract from Niles' Weekly Register.

Much fear is expressed of a loss of the British West India trade,—and a shutting of the ports of Cuba would throw us into great alarm; because of a restricted demand for our flour—and yet the *New England states* received from New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, a much greater quantity of flour than we export to *all the West India islands.* Those states import, from their sister states, more than 625,000 barrels a year, besides large quantities of corn—the *whole* foreign export of flour was only 813,000 barrels in 1825, and 858,000 in 1826. New England is enabled to receive and *consume* this great quantity because of her manufactures—more than 281,000 barrels were received at the single port of Boston, of which 72,000 were exported, leaving 209,000 for *consumption*, chiefly from Maryland and Virginia, in the last year; and the latter, *of itself*, is almost equal to the whole export of the United States to the British West Indies and Cuba—which, in 1825 was no more than 223,000 barrels.

How small, then, is the foreign demand, compared with the home market, for the growers of grain. If we allow to the people of the United States a quantity of bread stuffs equal only to a peck of corn per week, for each individual, the whole consumption will be about 150,000,000 bushels a year, equal to 30,000,000 barrels of flour, while the export is less than 1,000,000 barrels. The *horses* and *hogs* in the United States annually consume more than five times as much grain as would be equivalent to the quantity of flour exported! The foreign demand, however, even for so small a proportion of our bread stuffs produced, is exceedingly important, because of its effect to establish a selling value for all the rest.

It is very probable that the *starch* used in our manufacturing establishments consumes a greater value of the products of agriculture than the amount of all such articles exported, (cotton and tobacco excepted,) to *Great Britain* and *Ireland, Russia, Prussia, Holland,* &c. We are not joking. We see it stated that five factories near Springfield, Mass. annually use 40,000 pounds of starch. It is ascertained that at one factory in Massachusetts, employing 260 hands, 300 barrels of *flour* were consumed last year.

HOP MARKET.

The reports from the plantations are as bad as ever, though there are some few that notice a trifling improvement. In this state of things little is doing. On Saturday there was an advance of 2s to 3s. The Maidstone report says, the rains having washed off part of the vermin and filth, the hop vines have rather a fresher appearance; but as the lice have been increasing generally, the blight is more confirmed. If the present wet weather continues, little doubt can be entertained of the ultimate fall of the crops. The Canterbury report also says, that the vermin are on the increase; and, unless favourable weather should take place, there cannot be any thing like half a crop.—*London paper, July 2.*

Bolting Cloths and

Constantly for sale by B. F. WHITE, No. 11 Kilby street, Boston.